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373

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Oleg Shikhman et al)
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/037,899 ✓) Group Art Unit: 3731
FILED: October 22, 2002) Before the Examiner:
FOR: CRIMPING AND CUTTING DEVICE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22314-1450

RECEIVED
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In compliance with the duty to disclose, applicants submit herewith a copy of the PCT/US02/33754 Search Report issued in a counterpart foreign application and a copy of each of the publications cited therein; the publications are listed on attached form PTO-1449.

Since the PCT/US02/33754 Search Report is in the English language and was issued in connection with a counterpart foreign application and indicates the degree of relevance of each of the publications as assessed by the foreign patent office, the PCT/US02/33754 Search Report meets the concise explanation requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98 (a) (3), see 57 Fed. Reg. 2031, comment 68 (1992).

Consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested, since the Examiner may consider the information provided herein material to the patentability of the subject application as defined in 37 CFR §1.56.

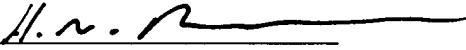
Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action, no fee or certification under 37 CFR § 1.97 (e) is required.

However, in the event the Commissioner of Patents deems that any fee is required under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in connection with this application, applicant's attorneys authorize that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

OLEG SHIKHMAN ET AL

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicants' Attorneys

By: 
H.M. Bedingfield, Esq.
Registration No. 44,530

Date: 23 July 2003

Address: 55 Griffin Road South, Bloomfield, CT 06002

Telephone: (860) 286-2929

Customer No. 23413